

In fact

For The Millions Who Want a Free Press

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If Your Name Is Addressed in
Red See Page 3

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George Seldes, Editor

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Alaska Betrayal

JUST before the Japanese attacked Alaska, Curtis Sherwood of Juneau airmailed IN FACT copy of Daily Alaska Empire which said:

"Residents of a wellknown Alaska town (the censor wouldn't like us to say which town) opened the pages of the latest issue of the Saturday Evening Post the other day to find that their supposedly secure hamlet was 'an undisclosed Alaskan base' and that 'an attack on Japan may start from here.' The 'undisclosed' base was as familiar to anyone who has lived in Alaska for a few years as Jimmy Durante's profile. The landmarks and the marks of engineers made it that plain. . . .

"If, as the editors of SEP insist, this little harbor town was seething with battleships all set to whack away at the Japs, to publish such a betraying photo with its easily distinguishing landmarks, would certainly be publishing vital information to the enemy. To print such a picture in a magazine which may be sent through the mails to anyone who has a subscription, anyone who wants to buy one of the magazines on a newsstand, is to send this betraying message to the enemy."

Alaska Empire also says that if the place named is not in reality a big military base, and if the SEP faked the story, then it invites a raid from Japanese bombers as a decoy, something the residents might not find pleasant.

Two postscripts: in the meantime Alaska has been attacked, and the SEP has changed editors.

McCormick Lies Again

AS owner of the standard-sized newspaper with biggest circulation in America, and Station WGN, part of Mutual network, Col McCormick of Chicago is able to spread almost as much falsehood as any man in America. (The charge of falsehood is a serious matter, and it has been made by Chi Times and Madison Capital-Times, each paper offering a large sum of money to the Red Cross if McCormick could prove his news stories were not outright lies. McCormick refused to accept challenge and did not sue for libel—therefore falsehood charges stand.)

In his weekly talks over WGN, WOR, other Mutual stations, McCormick spreads his native Fascist propaganda over America. At 9 pm May 28 McCormick uttered the following lies: that labor is loafing in shipbuilding; that "Labor on the West Coast has been sabotaged by the Australian communist Harry Bridges."

Fact: the Army, Navy, capital and labor on the West Coast led by Harry

Coca Cola, Banana and Lipstick Trade Help Hitler p. 1

Toilet Goods Ass'n "Squashes" WPB Order p. 2

"Shape Up" Aids Nazi Spies on NY Waterfront p. 3

EVER SINCE PEARL HARBOR this weekly has devoted most of its space to exposing the native Fascists, notably the Sixth Columnists in the big newspapers, such as the Chicago Tribune, which by betraying U S army secrets to Hitler and Hirohito, fighting labor, redbaiting and using several of the 15 main lies which comprise Hitler's American propaganda, aid defeatism, divisionism, and approach treason.

This paper has for more than two years also exposed the enemies of America in Big Business, notably Standard Oil, Mellon's Alcoa, the DuPont empire, which sold oil, munitions, and other war supplies to the Japanese, Germans, Italians and Franco-Spaniards who, even after the war began, re-shipped war supplies to the Fascists. Despite attempts to whitewash SO, Alcoa, etc, in NYTimes, Time, U S News, and scores of newspapers and magazines which divide the millions these corporations spend in advertising, the charges of treason, made by Senator Truman and the Dep't of Justice against these corporations, stand.

Since Pearl Harbor, IN FACT has received hundreds of statements from patriots, mostly from AFL and CIO union workers, shop stewards and leaders pointing out failure by smaller corporations to utilize machinery for all-out war work, failure to convert, failure to employ machines 24 hours a day and especially failure to cooperate with labor in hundreds of ways labor proposed to save time and money.

Private Profits Above America's General Welfare

Since it is not the purpose of IN FACT to be a muckraking journal—muckraking being exposures for the sake of sensation alone—but rather a force in the fight against the common enemy through the exposure of Fascism at home as well as abroad, IN FACT has not scattered its shots in all small directions. It has aimed at the biggest Fascists. A man like Pegler, for example, is of no importance himself but as a columnist pushed by his master, Roy Howard, into more than a hundred papers, where his anti-labor falsehoods and poison influence 8,000,000, he becomes a first-class Fascist.

Here are five examples of another type of enemy of the general welfare of the American people, the smaller industries which, in their eagerness for profits, are injuring the nation and thereby aiding Hitler.

1. The cola companies and other soft drink manufacturers who have hoarded millions of pounds of sugar.
2. The patent medicine lobby which has obtained priorities for some vital medicines needed for our soldiers and sailors.
3. The banana trust which continued to ship this fruit although Hitler's sinking of our ships has become our greatest danger and problem.
4. The lipstick industry which boasts it "squashed" a U S Gov't order that the industry cut down and save alcohol and glycerine for explosives to fight Hitler.
5. The typewriter and other industries which advertise they are 100% converted for war but which mislead the public and their own workers.

Soft Drinks Use Up Sugar, Endanger National Health

We have received more than ample corroboration of our exclusive story (March 2) regarding the soft drink, cola and chewing gum industry whose stocks were listed as a good buy because Canada Dry, Coca Cola, Pepsi Cola, Nehi Corp and Wrigley had great amounts of sugar on hand. March 9 we reported Coca Cola had sold 90,000,000 pounds back to the gov't and Pepsi 80,000,000. Several readers questioned the 4 teaspoons of sugar per bottle in Coca Cola which Consumers Union tests showed, none questioned the addition of caffeine in most cola drinks. But the bottling industry's magazine wrote us an

angry letter insisting that it was aiding the nation. When questioned on caffeine and the cola drinks, it failed to reply.

Now we have scientific evidence that not only the cola drinks (which contain added drugs which are harmful) but all bottled drinks, besides using up our necessary sugar, harm rather than aid the nation at war. Among the unsolicited letters we received was the following:

We were much interested in your recent discussion of the sugar situation and cola industries. One aspect of the matter that affords another angle is the fact that these cola drinks tend to retard better nutrition because they are sold in many industrial plants at 5¢ a bottle and workers select them in preference to milk at 7¢ or 8¢ a pint. We who are interested in better nutrition would like to see the soft drinks restricted or rather heavily taxed in order to improve nutrition in industrial plants.

We wrote for confirmation and for the right to quote the authority, which is Cornell University. Following is the reply:

New York State College of Agriculture at Cornell University
Cornell University Agricultural Experiment Station

I hope you will run a paragraph about soft drinks in one of your coming issues. I believe that soft drinks add nothing to our national happiness or well being. I think they injure our national nutrition, and indirectly our production in factories because men tend to select soft drinks in preference to milk. I think they should be heavily taxed so that they will not compete with milk, or abolished entirely. I see no reason why my name should not be used in connection with such a statement.

Yours sincerely

(Signed) C M McCay

It is no secret in the halls of Congress that several of the men supposedly elected to represent the people of Georgia actually represent the Coca Cola company. It was reported (Sept 3 1941) that "the tax on soft drinks which was urged by the Treasury and aimed at Coca Cola in Georgia was cut out of the bill, it might be assumed at the insistence of the chairman, Senator George of Georgia. Senator Byrd, a member of the Senate finance committee, was able to see the committee did not open the issue of higher tobacco taxes, as suggested by the Treasury." In the present tax bill 1¢ is proposed per bottle. According to the financial newsletter "Trends" published by Dow Jones, the "5¢ bottles of soda pop seemed destined to pass out of the picture if Congress puts its OK on the excise tax recommendations of the Treasury. Six cents will probably become the wartime pop price." The tax will be passed to the consumer. No slump is expected, judging from a 2¢ tax in Canada. Soft drink makers had their allotments cut 50% during the first world war and are currently being rationed . . . on the basis of 80% of their sugar use. . . . They are among the biggest sugar users.

VICTORY OF TOILET GOODS OVER VICTORY PROGRAM

THE candy makers, a \$400,000,000-a-year industry, have officially protested Morgenthau's proposed 15% excise tax, claiming it is a food industry and there should be no discrimination between one branch and another (say bread or meat).

Another \$400,000,000-a-year industry is cosmetics. In preparation for the annual Toilet Goods Ass'n convention, Waldorf-Astoria, NYC, June 16, the organization sent its members the good news that it had defeated the U S proposal to make the industry sacrifice something for the war.

On April 6 Science Service reported from Washington that "severe restrictions of varieties and shades of lipsticks, rouges, powders and cleansing creams, and elimination of hand lotions, toilet water and luxury perfumes, may not be far distant. . . . America's cosmetic industry has received until April 15 to provide the War Production Board with specific information as to how such standardization and elimination might be accomplished, together with estimates as to the number of cosmetic plants that might be converted to war industries. . . . Officials of the WPB class lipstick, rouge, face powder and cleansing cream as 'essential' cosmetics." They sought to eliminate waste and luxury in non-essentials.

Now listen to the Indian victory yell from the Toilet Goods Ass'n. It reprints the Science Service report with the heading: "CUT IN COSMETICS PROPOSED BY WPB," sends it to its members, adding:

This is not true . . . but . . . if it were . . . you would have the 'Heebie Jeebees.'

This is not true . . . because . . . the Toilet Goods Ass'n squashed it by cajoling, reasoning and fighting.

However, Uncle Sam isn't fooling. This is an 'all-out' war, where anything can happen.

Which adds up to only one thing . . . a very strong Trade Ass'n.

Remember . . . united we stand, divided we (maybe) fall.

So-o-o, sign the enclosed card, and mail it fast.

Very truly yours, John J Pollock, chairman

The dots, grammar and humor are all the Toilet Goods Association's. The attached card shows that manufacturers making less than 100,000 a year pay \$50 membership; less than \$250,000 pay \$200, and so on up to those making more than two million, who pay \$2,500.

The entire \$400,000,000-a-year cosmetics industry is based on buncombe,

Bridges has helped the war program as much as, if not more than, labor anywhere else in America. Even Bridges' enemies among the ship owners demand he remain in America because he has done more to speed the victory-against-Fascism program in California than any other individual in the West. Months ago, for example, Bridges sent a production, labor-management plan to two shipyards. One accepted, with excellent results; the other refused and fell behind schedule.

May 23 issue of The Nation accuses McCormick of treating it to "a dose of lies" and speaks of "the lies directed by these newspapers (Chi Tribune and Washington Times-Herald)." That fine old word "liar" is enjoying a new vitality nowadays.

Winning Labor Battles

THE newspaper campaign of falsehood regarding congressional candidates is about to begin. The native Fascists, anti-labor, therefore anti-American Representatives and Senators will, as usual, have the support of the newspapers which in the past 100 years have represented the special or vested interests (Big Business, Mellons, DuPonts, Rockefellers, advertisers) will support the men who represent the same interests. It is a fact that of the \$25,000,000 obtained for each major election, a handful of millionaires puts up most, and must get repaid for it. The liberal, pro-labor candidates will have to fight the press to get the truth to the public.

Good news comes from isolated points showing how the American people can beat the conspiracy of press and Big Money and elect honest men to Congress. (1) In Denver, AFL, CIO and Railroad Brotherhoods and farm organizations met, organized for coming elections, to defeat anti-labor candidates. (2) In Oklahoma City, despite Chamber of Commerce and newspaper campaign against labor, industrial union men and farmers organized Unity Council of Industrial Research Education, including CIO, Okla Farmers Union, Okla F of L, Veterans of Industry, Railroad Brotherhoods. First objective is to attack Oklahoma Times and Daily Oklahoman, news monopoly which started notorious falsehood of 40-hour-week limitation, which got into Congress. Resolution by Tom Cheek, Farmers Union, unanimously approved, said: "We condemn the un-American attacks being made by certain newspapers and other selfish interests as nothing short of sedition." United workers and farmers urged Okla Congressmen support Roosevelt. They'll support only liberals, pro-laborites, for Congress. (3) An attempt by Newark's reactionary political machine to wreck progressive city administration was defeated thanks to union of AFL, CIO, other progressives who formed United Labor Committee. Jacob Baer and Wm Rose leaders. Citizens voted 49,703 to 14,342 against Ellenstein-Fenias proposals.

Any coalition of industrial labor, farm workers, liberals and progressives against native Fascist political machines, reactionary press, and corruption of Big Money, has a good chance to win in city, state and national elections.

Vito Marcantonio

THE Union for Democratic Action, Dr Frank Kingdon, pres, is conducting a

poll "among liberal editorial writers and Wash correspondents, to determine who the worst ten congressmen are."

On its postcard 16 men are listed, including Clare Hoffman, native Fascist and spreader of Hitler propaganda; Martin Dies, who according to Vice-Pres Wallace might just as well be on the Hitler payroll; Howard Smith, author of the "labor slavery bill"; Leland Ford of California, whose falsehoods against the CIO in a radio broadcast were exposed in IN FACT; Ham Fish, Steve Day, Gene Cox, John Rankin, and other native Fascists, Hitlerites, anti-Semites, labor-baiters and enemies of America.

The UDA, however, included the name of Vito Marcantonio in the list. Vito Marcantonio stands among the first as the friend of labor in the House of Representatives. He is endorsed 100% by the CIO. On a hundred occasions Marcantonio's was the only voice speaking for American labor, American democracy, the American people. However, the Union for Democratic Control disagreed with Marcantonio on certain international issues, and took this occasion for a foul smear. (Editorially, we urge our readers to protest; UDC address, 120 E 16, NYC.)

Rep. Ramspeck

AN official of the Nat'l Ass'n of Letter Carriers and a faculty member of Georgia School of Technology inform IN FACT it mistakenly used the name of Rep Ramspeck as a poll-tax reactionary in place of Cox. Atlanta Journal recently pointed out that of 12 Representatives and 2 Senators from Georgia only one opposed the Smith "slavery" anti-labor bill, that exception being Ramspeck. Mr Ramspeck has one of the best liberal records in Congress.

IN FACT takes this opportunity again of urging readers who have not done so to write members of Congress to raise wages of postoffice employees who face a 30% increase in cost of living and who haven't had a raise in 17 years.

Poison for Dutch

DUTCHMEN in America obtain considerable information on the activities of their nationals in fighting Fascism, from Knickerbocker Weekly. But when it comes to labor, this publication is content to spread the type of anti-labor poison which is one of the features of Fascism. March 16 issue it began series "Labor in the Indies" by Albert Balink. When IN FACT subscriber Mme Elizabeth de Sturler protested story was misleading, confusing and Fascistic, Balink refused to publish protest, wrote that it was a "joke." Article attacks closed shop, speaks of "paralyzing strikes,"

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61* or 21 You will receive 2 more issues
62* or 22 You will receive 3 more issues

* Former U. S. Week Subscribers

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and buncombe's main agent, advertising. If anyone is interested in knowing the truth it can be found in Consumers Union Reports and in the daily fraud orders issued by the Federal Trade Commission.

It is a fact that several brands of 5¢ soap such as Ivory, Palmolive, etc., which are advertised, and certain unadvertised brands are better than most expensive soaps. It is a fact that several 10¢ lipsticks to be had at Woolworth's are better than the \$1 lipsticks advertised, some of which have caused trouble. It is a fact that soap is better than any cream for the complexion. It is a fact that many cold creams costing a few cents are better and purer than creams costing \$1 to \$5. It is a fact that most perfumes are priced for their packaging and French names.

Officers and executive board members of the Toilet Goods Association are: H L Brooks of Coty; Cecil Smith, Yardley; C M Baker, Pond's Extract, which happens to be owned by Lamont of J P Morgan & Co; J A Danilek of Elizabeth Arden; A E Johnston of Colgate-Palmolive-Peet . . . etc. It is a fact that in the past few years the U S Gov't has issued its cease and desist orders, stipulations, fraud orders, etc., against most of these cosmetics people, also Helena Rubenstein, Dorothy Gray and most of the chainstore beauty outfits, charging that in most instances their advertising was false, and that their claims were ridiculous. In 99% of the cases the American press, including the NYTimes (which runs an occasional gov't order) suppressed the news. Moreover, Consumers Union publishes the facts every month and would like to place ads in many papers and magazines such as NYTimes and Time, asking people to become members, learn the truth, save money, save themselves from being robbed by all sorts of advertisers—but the same press which suppresses the news refuses to accept CU ads.

(More about the profits-above-victory groups in next issue.)

"SHAPE UP" AIDS NAZI SPIES ON NY WATERFRONT

THE shipping situation remains critical—according to many observers has become more dangerous. American ships are being sunk, in the Gulf and off the Atlantic coast, twice as fast as they can be built. When IN FACT published (April 13) Wellington Roe's exposé of what had been happening to American ships bound for Soviet Russia with war supplies, due to improper stowing of cargo, it launched a Federal investigation which is still continuing. Nevertheless the opinion of most competent observers is that the situation along the East coast waterfront is a scandal and a continuing peril to the country's war effort. Dim-out of city lights has not cut the rate of sinkings. It would appear that the enemy submarines must operate on detailed and exact information, to be able to get so many ships despite the navy's all-out vigilance. Yet there is practically no discussion in the press of the possibility of overcoming this preventable danger to our ships, if it exists; and when the question is raised dramatically—at a stockholders' meeting of the biggest ship company in the country—the International Mercantile Marine—it is practically ignored by the commercial papers.

On June 1 the International Mercantile Marine Company held its annual stockholders' meeting at Hoboken, NJ. By law the meeting must last an hour, to permit all stockholders to vote for directors. Since the only business was this routine re-election of directors, there was plenty of opportunity for any stockholder to speak. One of them did—Mrs Constance L Todd, who has been interested in the waterfront ever since the big strike of 1936-37. Mrs Todd told the directors about the dangerous situation on the waterfront, due largely to the "shape-up" system of hiring, by which no adequate check is kept on the cargo-loading personnel. Four or five reporters were present, but except for a brief item in the financial section of the NYTimes next day, and a story sent out by Federated Press to the labor papers, the press was silent on the grave charges made by Mrs Todd. Silent also were the directors themselves. To Mrs Todd's demand that the question of the "shape-up" be discussed, and that something be done to remove this peril to wartime shipping, President Basil Harris said the only one who would say whether the dangers she spoke of existed, was A. J. McCarthy, vice-president in charge of operations. McCarthy recently was elected a director also, but he was not present. Asked why, Harris said: "We felt we had to leave somebody to answer telephones." Everybody snickered.

Mrs Todd—who has been a minor thorn in the IMM directors' side for years—went into the history of IMM's labor policy, its bitter and costly fight against labor, and the inefficiency and wastefulness of the "shape-up" system of hiring. (Under this system, the stevedore's foreman picks out of a semi-circle of longshoremen, those whom he wants to work; the others are sent home. On the West Coast, where the "shape-up" has been displaced by the central hiring-hall system under the union's control, loading and unloading of ships is more efficient and rapid.)

Then Mrs Todd quoted from the statement of a member of the jury which convicted 10 Nazi spies in February 1941; told how these spies collected information on the waterfront and sent it to U-boats off shore. She continued:

Let me ask every intelligent person here present: Suppose you were in the pay of Heinrich Himmler and very anxious to get ahead, and anxious to help Germany win this war. Suppose your orders were—now the USA is in the war—to find out and transmit by shortwave radio to the submarines lurking off the

coast all the information you could get about cargoes for Murmansk or other important ports? Could you possibly overlook the opportunity offered to you on a silver platter by the hiring arrangement arrived at by the steamship companies and the contracting stevedores whom they employ, and the president of the International Longshoremen's Association, Mr Joseph P Ryan, whose members are in turn employed by the stevedores?

Longshoremen Want "Shape-Up" Ended

It is a perfectly beautiful arrangement for passing the buck; in peacetime it works admirably to keep plenty of labor on the docks and to free the steamship companies from fear of any genuine labor disturbance. That is bad enough, God knows; but exploitation is not dramatic, and when I made my protests in peacetime I got nowhere; the men themselves have long wanted to get rid of the shapeup, and got nowhere—in peacetime.

But now it is daily becoming manifest to more and more people that the steamship companies are serving their country ill in clinging to this outworn and inefficient hiring system, the historic excuse for which was gone when machinery came in use for swinging cargoes between deck and hold—because besides being inefficient it cannot help in its very nature serving the uses of spies. It is hard to believe that the public will tolerate it longer.

The longshoremen, of whom I have come to know a good many in the course of six years in which I have studied their plight, are a fine lot of men and very practical patriots. They have long advocated a central hiring hall where a dispatcher will send the needed number of men to any dock on call, taking the men in rotation without favoritism or kickback or any of the other abuses which are too familiar to the shapeup system. With the central hiring hall we would no longer have the disheartening exhibit of ships delayed in loading because they were short one winchman at one hatch while men were turned away at the next dock. With such a central hiring system the number of men needed for the peak load in each harbor would automatically measure itself, and the surplus—and three men for each job has been the estimated surplus in New York harbor for many years—would gravitate to the war industries in nearby cities.

Let us consider for a minute how this central hiring hall, constantly under the vigilant eye of the FBI, would simplify the work of policing the harbor. As a lawyer who is familiar with the docks put it to me recently, what you have now is a net with a hundred holes in it—each hole being the entrance to a dock. Suppose then you have the one funnel through which all the dock workers are filtered—and the FBI agents always there to check the men. To me at least, who know the longshoremen and watched what happened to the seamen when they broke the control of their own crooked union officials, it is clear that the creation of a central hiring hall would destroy the source of the wellknown corruption within the ILA. It would spell the beginning of morale in the ILA, heartening the best elements among the men, long discouraged by seeing their own leaders driven out of the industry or meeting violent death. Such a change would mean the better and safer loading of ships.

Now, I have no intention of putting a resolution to this meeting to have it voted down even if it is seconded. I have no illusions about the gentlemen who control the destinies of this corporation. They are not going to have a sudden change of heart and abolish the shapeup and establish the central hiring hall by demanding this change of Mr Ryan and the stevedoring companies out of kindness and to oblige one very minor stockholder.

But neither have I any illusions about the power of public opinion in this democratic country of ours once that public opinion is informed and stirred. I think the public is in the mood to make short shrift of any industry which obstructs our winning of this war, even if the obstruction is due merely to ineptitude and not deliberate action.

In sharp contrast with the press silence about the IMM meeting was its handling of a well-staged (and well-fed) gathering of Standard Oil of NJ stockholders, the next day, at Flemington, NJ. The company's officials made blanket denials that they had done anything wrong in tying up with Hitler's I G Farben-industrie—thereby hindering U S defense by withholding artificial rubber secrets—and big headlines in all the papers played up the denials. The attempts of several stockholders to bring out the truth were played down or ignored.

sneers at CIO, and boosts white imperialism in Dutch colonies.

Deceitful Economists

WE cannot divulge the source of the following item, but can say it is a U S gov't economist who believes anyone familiar with methods of estimating current income could unearth same facts. Here they are:

"Outstanding deception by the status quo economists has been the charge, echoed lustily by the editors and advertisers, that all our new war income is going to lower-bracket families. This assumption has been the chief argument for a sales tax.

"Factual income studies indicate rather that most low-income families benefit little or not at all from the war economy, while the gravy goes to the upper bracketeers.

"Assuming a 1942 income of \$110 billion, we have an increase of \$18 billion over 1941. A billion of that increase goes to single persons. The other \$17 billion goes to families receiving more than \$2,500 a year.

"Families with more than \$2,500 a year in 1942 are a third of the total number of American families: they receive two-thirds of American family income. In 1941, they were a fourth of the total number of families, and they had 60% of the total family income. About two and a half million families have been promoted into the upper ranks.

"The average family with more than \$2,500 a year in 1942 will have \$336 more than such a family in 1941. The average family with less than \$2,500 will have \$108 more than a similar family in 1941. The average family with less than \$1,500 in 1942 will have \$58 more than a similar family in 1941.

"These figures refute the notion that it is money in the hands of the lower income groups that is driving up prices. Only to a partial extent is it true that the war money is in the hands of lower-income families who have become upper income families, and even if this were the whole truth these families would not be affected by a sales tax so much as the less fortunate ones who missed the gravy train."

Christians Gets 5 Years

G W CHRISTIANS, who threatened New Deal leaders, advocated sedition, mixed a plea for economic liberty with crackpot Fascism, got 5 years in the pen.



KEEP 'EM SATISFIED!

No need for any boy in service to feel peeved because the Sarge just happened to borrow his copy of IN FACT. You can't blame the Sarge. You can't be satisfied reading the commercial press which either colors, distorts, or suppresses important news that every American should know. And you don't build morale that way! Keep 'em satisfied by arming them with the real news, facts and information that help make better soldiers.

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